

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 SS-20 NSC-07

DRC-01 /129 W

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R 131434Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3242

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 5194

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID, EGEN

SUBJECT: FORUM FOR DISCUSSION AND COORDINATION OF ASSISTANCE TO
HARDEST HIT COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 120476

1. IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN WIDE RANGE OF GOC REACTION TO OUR
PROPOSALS RE THE FUTURE OF THE C-20 TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP
ON RESOURCE TRANSFERS. MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIALS HAD
LEFT BOGOTA FOR C-20 MEETING OR WERE OUT OF TOWN ON OTHER
BUSINESS WHEN REF TEL ARRIVED HERE. IN ANY EVENT ECON
COUNSELOR AND FINATT INFORMALLY DISCUSSED PROPOSALS WITH
ECON SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT, ENRIQUE LOW.

2. LOW THOUGHT THAT THE NEED TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE
ON RESOURCE TRANSFERS AT AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL WAS
IMPORTANT. HE WONDERED WHAT SPECIFIC ADVANTAGE COLOMBIA
WOULD GAIN FROM ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE PROPOSED
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, ESPECIALLY IF ADDITIONAL EMPHASIS
IS TO BE PLACED ON ASSISTANCE TO THOSE LDCS HARDEST HIT
BY HIGHER IMPORT PRICES. LOW STATED THAT GOC WOULD
PROBABLY GO ALONG WITH THE VIEWS OF THE MAJORITY OF THE
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OTHER COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA IN LIGHT OF THE

PRESSURES TO CLOSE RANKS AND SHOW A SOLID LDC FRONT. LOW
HAD NO PARTICULAR REACTION TO THE IDEA OF SPEEDING UP THE
TIMETABLE FOR MEANINGFUL AND RAPID INPUT FROM THE
PROPOSED NEW COUNCIL.

3. BEGIN COMMENT:. THE PRESENT PASTRANA ADMINISTRATION
HAS LESS THAN TWO MONTHS TO REMAIN IN OFFICE. MANY KEY
ECONOMIC OFFICIALS ARE LIKELY TO BE CHANGED COME 7
AUGUST AND THEREFORE THE POLICY HORIZON WITHIN THE GOC
AT THIS TIME IS PROBABLY NOTIVOO FAR INTO THE FUTURE.
END COMMENT.
VAKY

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